

the shakerite

April 1, 2079

"Now nearing our third century of continuous publication."

Volume 149, Issue 9



His excellency Dr. M.L. Lei "A Scholar and A Gentleman".

A MAN AMONG MEN

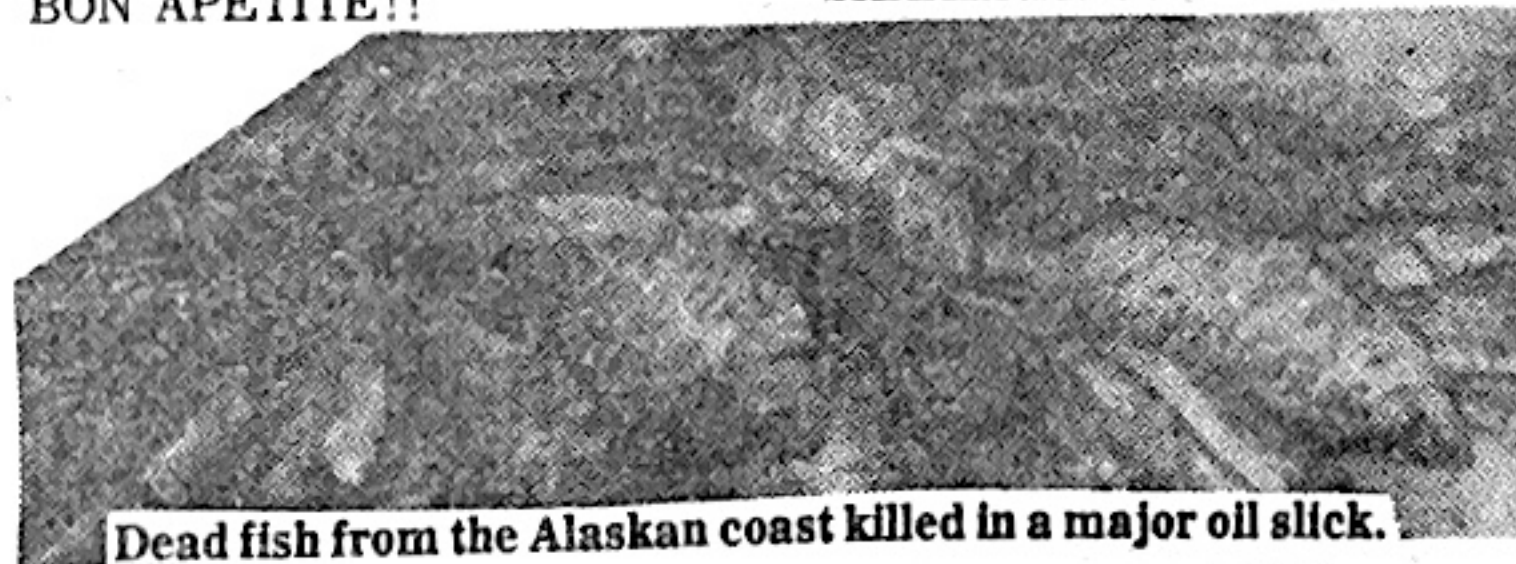
By Bore Manmill

Coming to Shaker from Seychelles is Dr. M.L. Lei, the new superintendent of Shaker schools. Dr. Lei is experienced in all levels of education from the archaic twelve-year system to the present single computer system. Dr. Lei is a graduate of Harvard, Lunar campus class of '60 where he double-majored in both education and nutrition; Brown Graduate School class of '61 where he was valedictorian (C.F. Qatti was a member of that class); and Interlocutor U. class of '70 where Lei received his Ph.D. in loquaciousness. Asked why he remained at I.U. for a span of nine years, Lei replied, "My previous college life had made me an introvert. It therefore took me nine long years to fulfill the requirements for my doctorate. As you can clearly see, I.U. has made myself the garrulous fellow that I am. Moreover, a propensity towards constant speech was created within myself. However, I must reiterate my extreme fondness for..." (at this point I took the liberty to end Dr. Lei's comments as they ran on and on and on and on for another 250 words).

Field Marshall Doctor M.L. Lei is looking forward to a successful tenure at Shaker; however, I will not quote him on this in the interest of both time and space. In his first move as superintendent, Dr. Lei gave an informal talk to the PCA (Parent Computer (James III) Association) in which he encouraged the parents to have periodic conferences with James III who would relate their child's progress.

All in all this reporter found his excellency to be a gentleman and a scholar who will serve Shaker superbly as is demonstrated by his nutrition plan $\frac{1}{2}+$. Dr. Lei will certainly be a fine addition to the present Shaker staff (JAMES III). WELCOME, SIR, FROM THE SHAKERITE!!

BON APETITE!!



Dead fish from the Alaskan coast killed in a major oil slick.

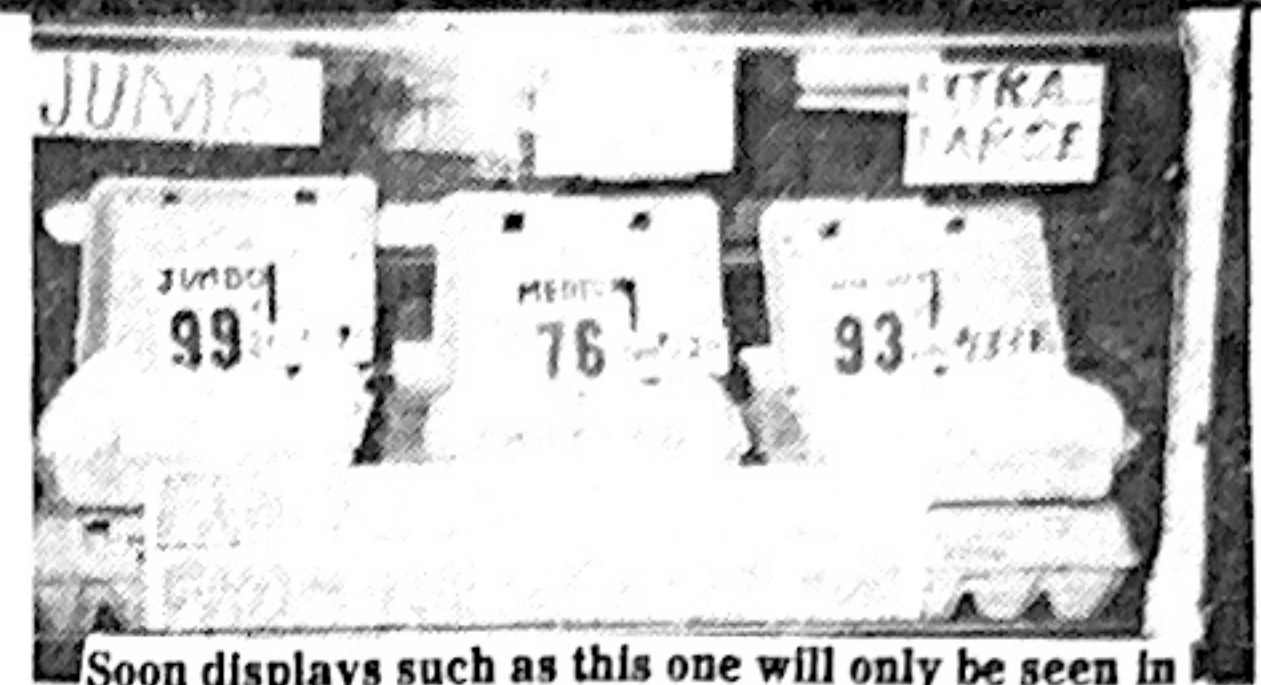
successful in controlling small oil spills, they have proved ineffective on the recent problem. Reports from Alaska indicate that many people have volunteered their services in clearing up the oil, but the only hope to prevent more spills is to stop the oil flow in pipelines and tankers, and to rely on local fossil fuels and solar energy for our needs.

Scientists are uncertain as to the cause of the recent violent series of earthquakes though many blame the artificial melting of the polar ice caps. These scientists feel that melting the ice caps has disrupted the earth's gravitational balance, adding stress to the planetary crust. Other scientists feel that recent experiments in using the heat at the center of the earth to provide energy has weakened the

planet's crust and ability to resist normal stress. It seems likely that the actions of man have brought on this series of earthquakes.

The oil spills have irreparably damaged ocean life. Sea birds who get oil on their feathers are usually doomed. There is less oxygen in the water and less light can penetrate the water, harming even the fish which travel in deep water. The rare sea mammals may already be doomed to extinction, for they must surface periodically for oxygen, but their ability to swim is decreased by the oil.

If we stop shipping oil overseas and in earthquake-prone land areas now, we may be able to save some of our ocean and be spared the massive starvation which will surely result if seafood can no longer be consumed. There is a little time left - only YOU can help.



Soon displays such as this one will only be seen in museum as "Square Eggs" increase in popularity.

ANACHRONISMS?

by F. Mallard Brille

Modern science triumphs again! No longer will eggs have to be packed carefully and carried by hand. No longer will eggs roll off the table and break! Artificially grown eggs, shaped as cubes and rectangular solids, have been developed and are now less expensive than "natural" eggs. The new eggs, known as "Square Eggs" are popular in Cincinnati,

Ohio and Peoria, Ill. where they were first introduced on a trial basis. Some people say they can identify an artificial taste in the eggs, but most people find the "Square Eggs" more convenient and easier to use than "natural" eggs. Soon, old-fashioned foam egg cartons and oval eggs will be seen only in museums.

SATs Score Poorly

by Light House

A controversial new study on the merits of Scholastic Aptitude Tests (SATs) advises schools to discontinue use of the tests for admissions to college. Tests of achievement in a given subject area are rated more advisable and beneficial for the students. The study claims that while SATs measure ability, unless the ability is combined with an equivalent scholastic success, demonstrating self-discipline and good study habits, the student will have marginal success at college. In the past, perhaps the SAT had a purpose, for students who did not

do as well in high school as they were capable of were often able to attend college if their SAT scores were high. Today, when the problem is not to encourage more students to get a university education but to find jobs for the many overly-educated people, a college education is only for the bright, serious student who actively, not passively, chooses a college education. Discontinuing SAT tests would limit college education to just those few who are able, successful students, definitely directed to a field where a college education is necessary.

ATOM MOVER

by Daisy Ville-femme

This year, after at least a decade of pressure from all sides, the Shaker Heights Department of Transportation has agreed to let the Rearrangement and Transportation of Atoms system have a try at renovating the present system. The Rearrangement and Transportation of Atoms (R.T.A.) system will begin work soon, but the completion of the project will probably take a long time; therefore the present system in which people stand on moving sidewalks will probably continue to be used for a while, although it has not functioned in a particularly advantageous manner up to this time. It is felt that the new R.T.A. method can not help being an improvement.

Some people object to the new system because of its relative novelty. This is unsound reasoning, as this concept of transporting people has been in existence for over a century. Its first primitive expression can be found in relics such as that ancient entertainment medium, "Star Trek". Other cities have also employed it extremely successfully for as long as fifteen years. It is felt that any possibly objectionable qualities of this mode of transportation would surely have made their presence felt well before this time-span had passed.

Shaker Heights' previous insistence on using an outdated system of transportation was difficult to understand. The major drawback to the present sole-type

is not one that can be solved by technological advances, but only by a change in human nature. Since its early days of existence, people have consistently been putting their briefcases or handbags on the stationary part of the sidewalk, not realizing that they had left them until much further on, due to the smooth and easily unnoticeable stops and starts of the mobile sidewalk sections. Widening the mobile area has constantly been rejected as an unnecessary and very expensive measure, which would also put the sidewalks out of commission for a long period of time and thus deprive people of ways to commute (since the individual motorized vehicle has long been outlawed, because of its polluting effects, after the original installation of moving sidewalks).

Another disadvantage of the sidewalk system is its relatively high expense. The extent to which money has been spent on this method becomes even more apparent when contrasted with the low costs involved with the projected method. Transportation would also be much faster and efficient, with no need to encounter the weather for an R.T.A. system could even be installed to one's door. Soon the community-funded entrances and exits will replace those of the old system at corners of major thoroughfares. All in all, the decision to break out of old-fashioned systems is to be heartily applauded.

EARTH- QUAKE

by Gem Nosredna

The beaches of America, of Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, and the Antarctica will soon be covered with the bodies of dead fish, as the coasts of Alaska and California are now. A series of earthquakes, beginning off the Alaskan coast, have ruptured oil pipelines and wrecked tankers. The sea, once considered to be the provider of food for the future, threatens to become a murky pool of oil spills and dead fish.

The various methods which have been devised to clean up oil slicks cannot handle the vast amounts of oil which have been spilled, and attempts to alleviate the problem are disrupted by further earthquakes. Although siphoning off an oil spill, introducing oil consuming bacteria, and fast-freezing the surface of the water have been

Students Take the Hot Seat

GARY GILMOUR

Last year, Shaker Heights Programming Center installed an electric shock system connected to every desk in the school. Since this system was installed, the quality of education at Shaker High has improved tremendously. I think that all who were involved in acquiring for Shaker this brilliant commodity should be commended and the center should be sparked into continuing its use.

The main shock unit is located on the teacher's desk in the front of the room. Right at the teacher's fingertips is a panel with a button for each chair in the room. The wires run from the teacher's desk under the floor, and up through a hole in it. The ends of the wires are then connected to the individual desks. The only problem presented by the wires underneath the floor is that the desks are immovable. The teachers, however, don't seem to mind this arrangement; they prefer the set-up to be more regimental in straight columns and rows. In this manner things are more organized and teachers are less likely to electrify the wrong student. If the wires were to run above ground, students could easily trip over them and damage the wires, an occurrence which the school wholeheartedly wishes to avoid. When a teacher wishes, he can press a button on the panel and subject a student to an enlightening experience through electric shock.

The need for such a system was first expressed over one hundred years ago by a Shaker teacher named Jerry Graham. This person always believed in the need for reward or punishment, depending on the quality of work and discipline. Since his age, Shaker has expanded on his ideas until the school administration decided to install this most refined system of punishment.

The electric shock system has done wonders for our programming center. Discipline is no longer a problem in the classroom. Students who are noisy or in any way unruly can be quieted down by merely pressing a button. As a result there is a better learning atmosphere in the classroom. Grades have improved tremendously and even Shaker's testing scores have become higher. All the teachers agree that it makes their jobs much more enjoyable (much, much, much, much, much more enjoyable!) than before, and the students certainly benefit from the severe discipline. Because of all these advantages, I think the electric shock system should continue at Shaker. It has been a rousing experience.

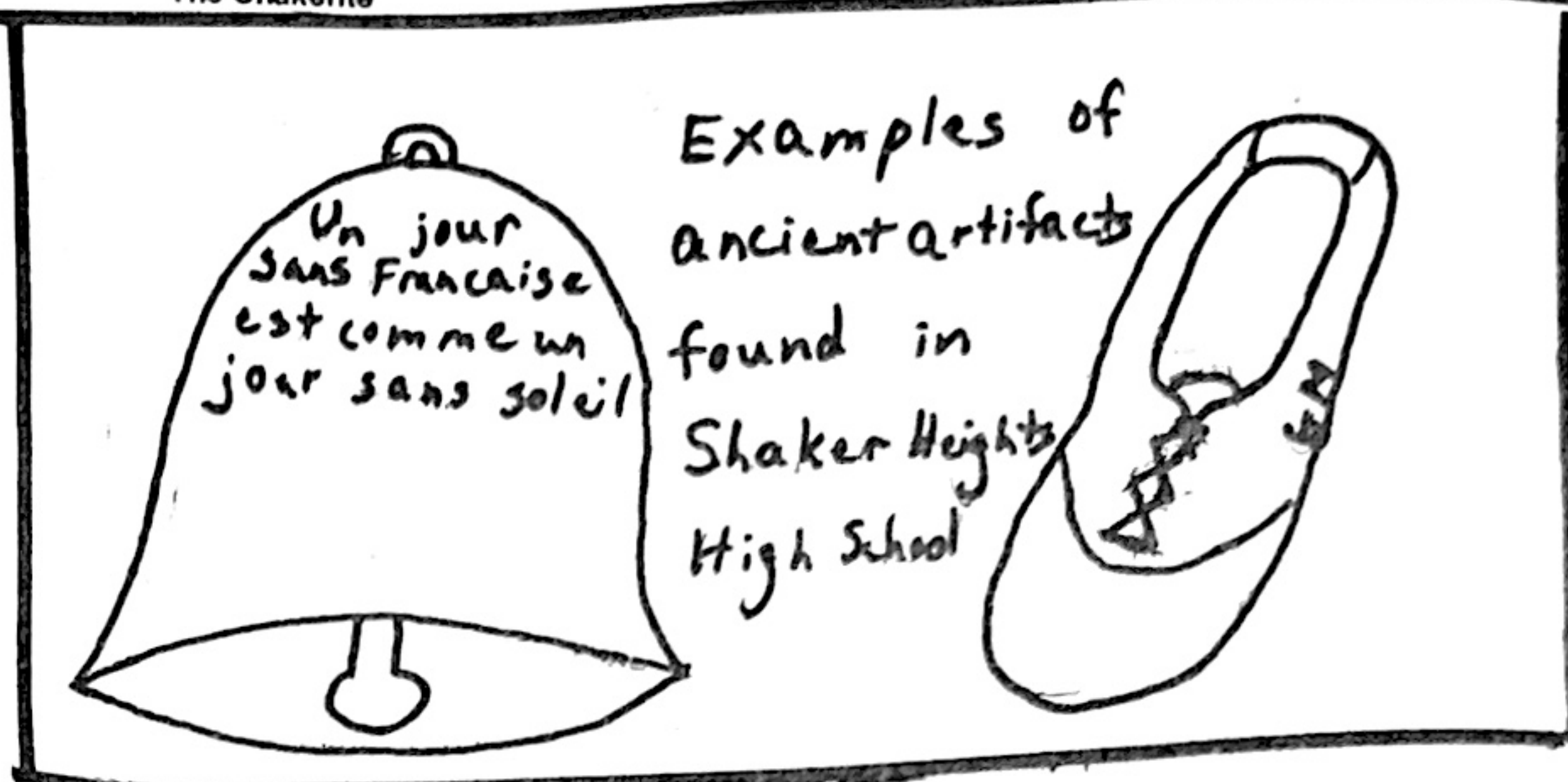
SHAKER STUDENTS PIGS?

CESIUM BARIUM

The Shakerite has discovered that the United States Army has been using Shaker students as guinea pigs. The army has been pumping nitrous oxide into the school through the vents to observe its effects on people. This disgusting experimentation on people who have not volunteered must be stopped. The gas has had many adverse effects on students at Shaker. Student apathy has long been a problem. Little did anyone know that it is caused by the rise of nitrous oxide, laughing gas. Because of the gas, students feel lethargic and have no enthusiasm for work on extra-curricular activities while in school. This lack of energy is certainly not apparent in students outside of school.

Although the army may have found a way of stopping wars, the experimentation of the gas certainly does not justify the horrible effect it has on students who should be enjoying themselves in school.

Shaker students have never acted like normal, well-adjusted, happy people and now we finally know why. The government use of nitrous oxide against its young people is a harmful, malicious trick. It certainly is not very funny.



SHAKER TO BE TORN DOWN?

Recently, the Shaker Heights Programming Board has been considering the possibility of tearing down the monument formerly known as Shaker Heights High School and building a new edifice in its place. Although the building was built over two hundred years ago, and is very obsolete, I feel it should be retained as a museum.

Shaker High has few of the modern conveniences that most schools have now. Its natural gas heating system is ineffective and unreliable compared with the modern solar heater. The classrooms are much too small to accommodate the normal class size of fifty students and the dank, dark

stairwells are believed to have been favorite sports for all sorts of torturous and kinky acts. But with all its inadequacies the school has a certain charm. It should certainly be preserved as a museum for the many interesting artifacts found in and around the building. Recently, a small lead bell inscribed with the words "Un jour sans Francaise est comme un jour sans soleil" (A day without French is like a day without sunshine) was found that is believed to have belonged to a French teacher long ago. In one of the closets there remains an old, outdated computer-like machine. The computer apparently fascinated the brainy students of the day. In a rusted

corner was found a pair of pink tennis shoes, apparently belonging to a former track star. Most interesting of all is an ancient copy of the Shakerite, torn and faded, but the headline "Violence Runs Rampant" remained visible. This is believed to have been created by an over-zealous editor of the period.

These are only a few examples of the artifacts found at Shaker. They are hints of what the world was culturally like long before civilization began. They should serve as a reminder to us of the heritage of our progenitors. For this reason, Shaker Heights High School should be allowed to stand erect amidst our community as it has for so many years.

BODY CHANGES LEAD TO SHOCKING BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS

GOODY BOCHEWS

In the year of our Big Brother 2,079, the secondary programming center has seen a significant change in the students' bodies. It all began in an ancient society, Cambridge, Massachusetts, or so the legend goes, when the inhabitants changed something called a DNA molecule and created a new, improved species - supposedly ourselves. But our forefathers of earlier centuries simply did not perceive the negative outcome of their discoveries.

Many of these unfortunate occurrences are exemplified in our own programming center. Students frustrated by indoctrination performance often enter the bathrooms and smoke to relieve the tension. Smoke pours inexhaustible from their ears, creating twice the problem it did doing it the old, simple way - from a mouth or nose. Now, one not only must contend with smoke pouring from fellow programmers' ears, but that awful highpitched, whistling sound makes it most difficult to concentrate. Now certainly it is impossible to change everyone's molecular structure so we may once again have the quiet (although smoky) comfort of the bathroom area. However, I suggest the administration what we have been fighting for for two hundred years! Give us peace and hope and safety from the smoke pouring from open ears, making awful noises! Give us the tranquility of toilets untainted with that foul, fetid fragrance.

GIVE US A SMOKING LOUNGE. Yes, friends, two hundred years later we must still fight for our Brother-given rights. The antiquated obstinacy of the

programming administration dates back to the anteWatergation times.

The number of old-fashioned principles maintained by some institutions is amazing.

But the fact remains that human physical structure is totally disfigured, so let's turn back to the topic at foot. Necking has always been a problem in corridors. This disgusting display of physical attraction has increased as the number of arms and necks on Shaker students also increase. Where only two people used to engage in this loathsome activity, now we find a great many people joining in the fun! Indeed, Shaker

Programmates now believe that "two's company, three's a crowd but 9 or 10 is absolute elation!" The perfection of this DNA change has left the programmates with less moral character and more licentious notions than ever before.

So one can see, that molecular changes in the human system do have significant negative effects on the secondary level programming environment. I suggest that somehow, someday we return to our old physical forms. The new problems, the sensual behavior and the smoking, seem to have gone in one ear of the administration and straight out the other.

THE SHAKERITE is a tri-weekly publication of the newspaper staff at Shaker Heights High School, 15911 Aldersyde Drive, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120.

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GERM WARFARE

FLATULENT FACULTY FORMS FATAL "FOG"

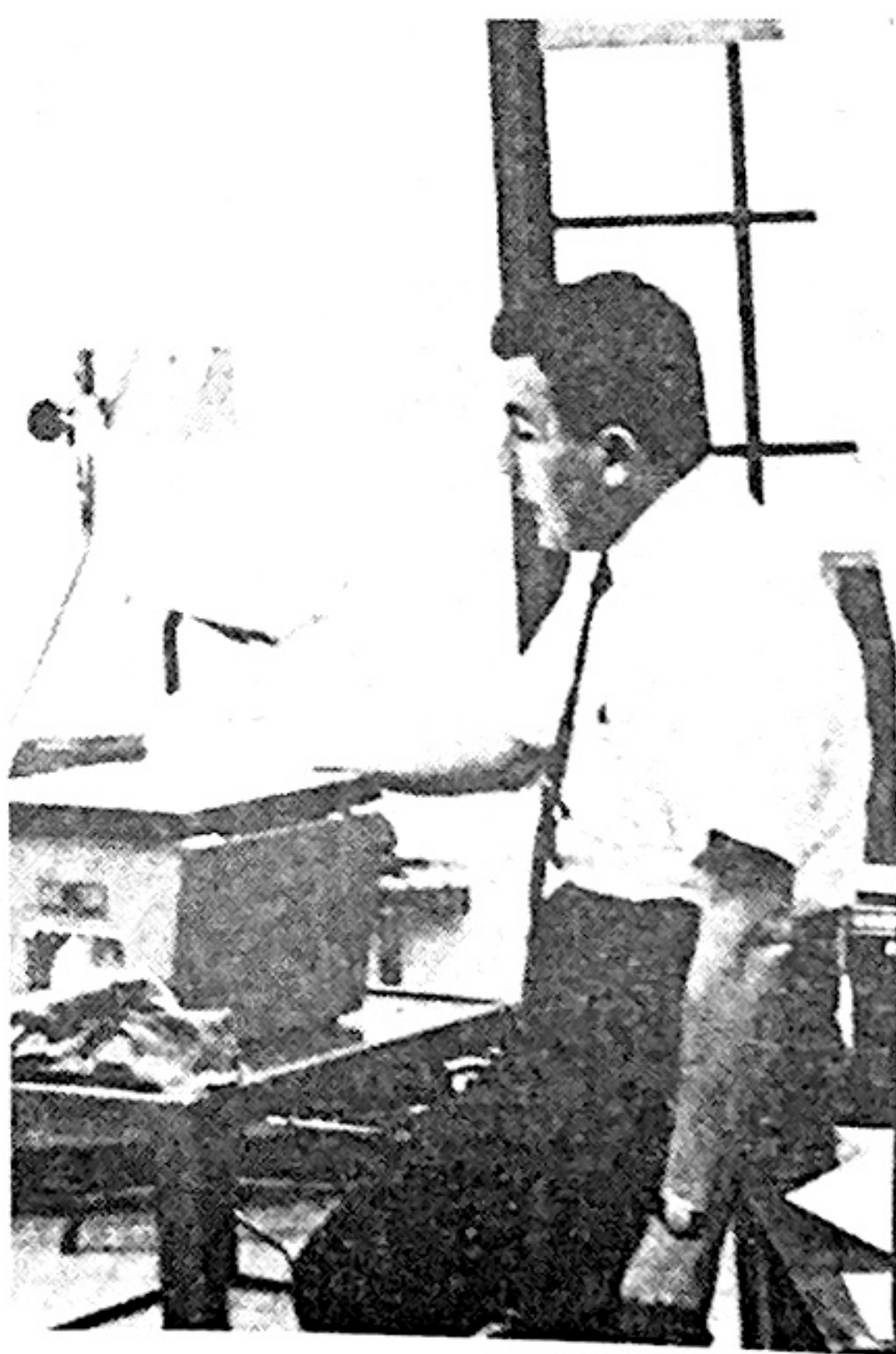
DUE TO AN ORGANIC DIIESTIVE REACTION TO THE SWEAR SUBSTITUTE BEING TESTED IN THE TEACHER'S CAFETERIA, MUTANT GERMS HAVE INFESTED THE ENTIRE SCHOOL AND HAVE GROWN TO GARGANTUAN PROPORTIONS. THE GERM HAS BEEN CLASSIFIED AS A. Falli-Amno-Racca-Trophe.



ABOVE, ONE TEACHER SHIELDS HIMSELF FROM THE ONCOMING ATTACK OF THE GERM.



EMERGENCY MEASURES WERE RESORTED TO YESTERDAY WHEN THE SCHOOL BOARD CONTACTED THE PRESIDENT IN AN EFFORT TO RECEIVE AID FROM THE N. SWAT. TEAM, WHO ARRIVED TODAY TO COMBAT THE GERM.



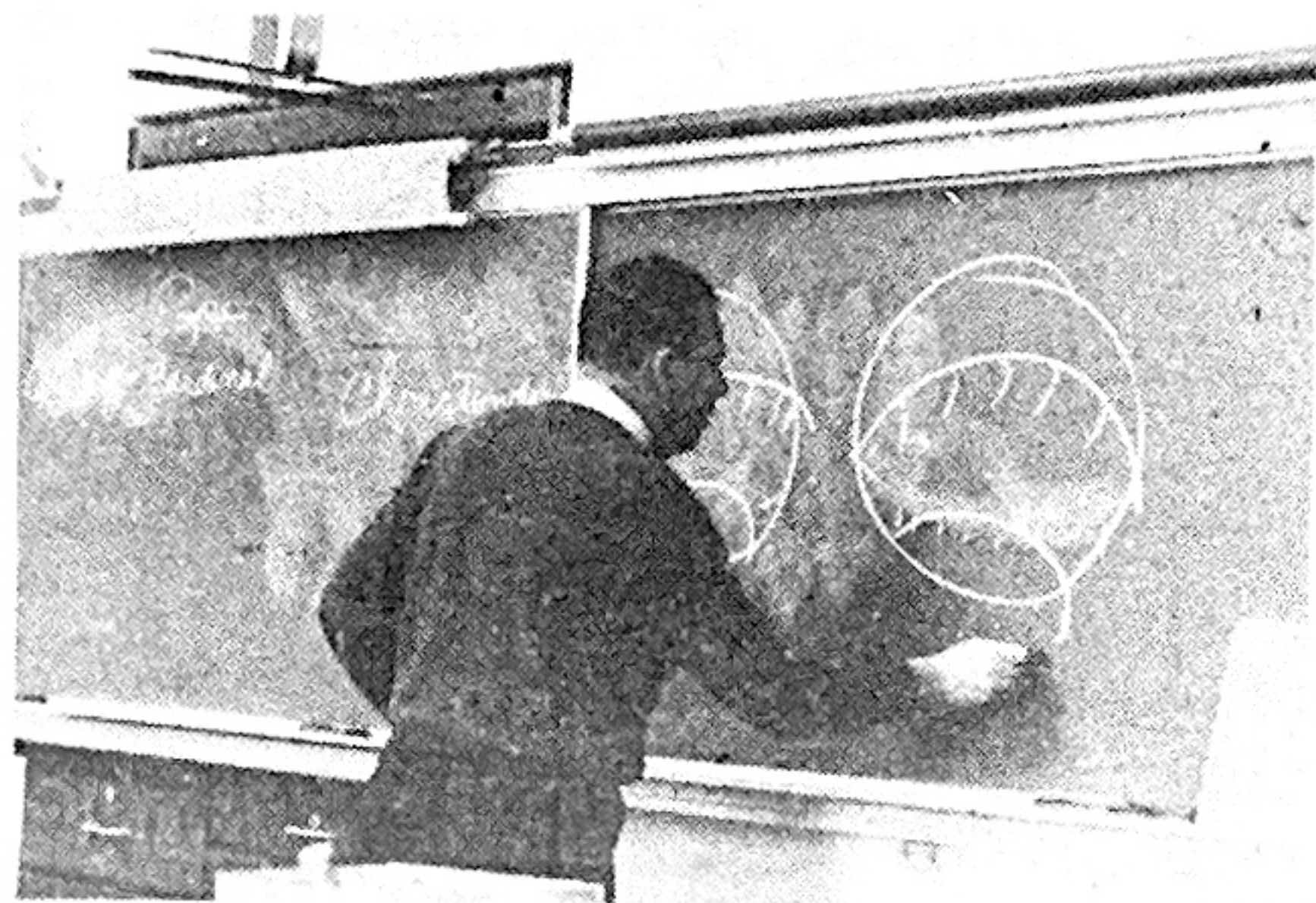
THE STRANGE EFFECTS OF THE BACTERIA HAVE BEEN EVIDENT IN SUCH MUTATIONS AS THOSE PICTURED ABOVE.

CLOSE CONTACT WITH A CONTAMINATED OVERHEAD CAUSED THIS FACULTY MEMBER TO UNDERGO A SERPENTINE TRANSFORMATION

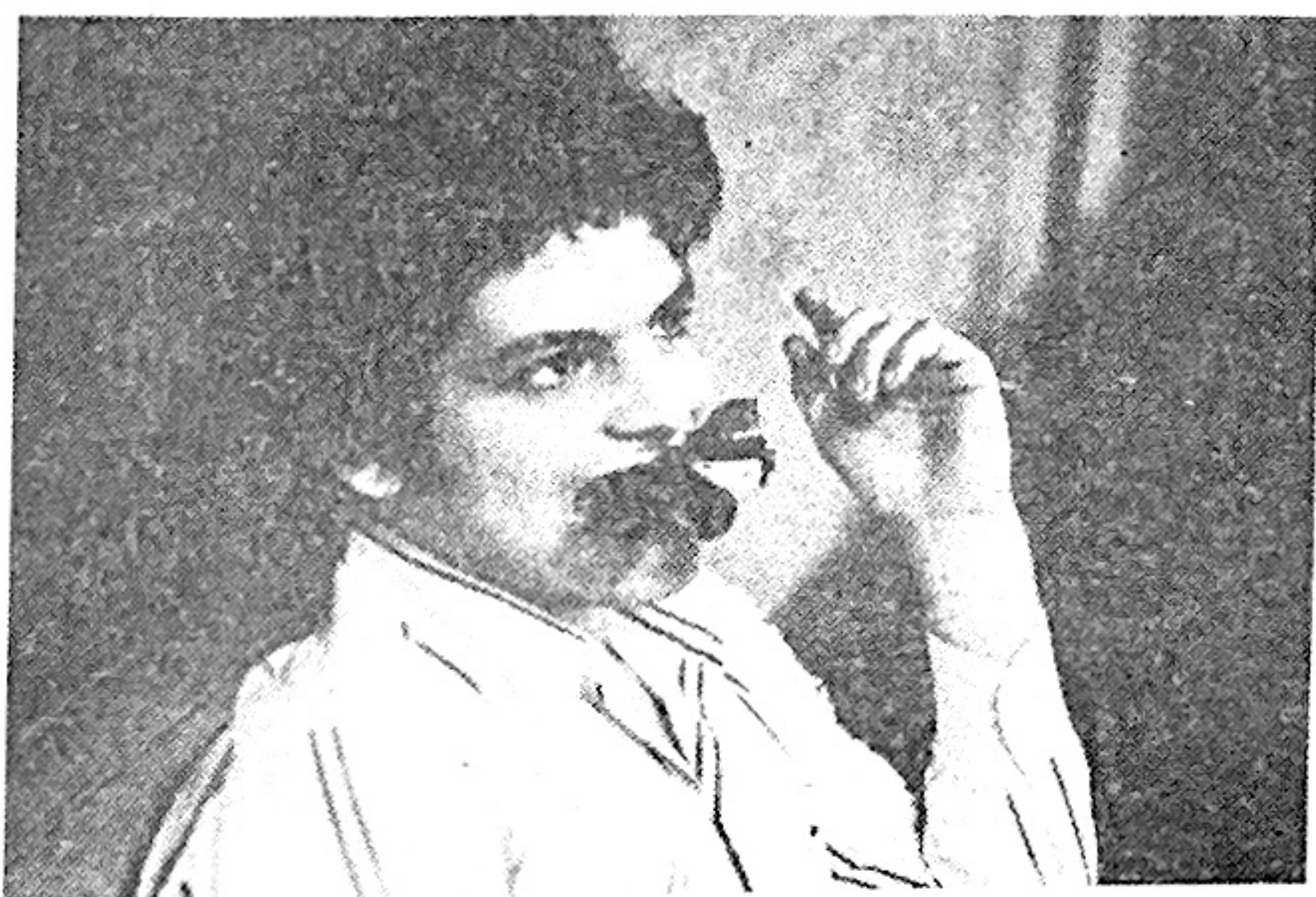
STAFFING ADVISED 12-01-79



MANY HAVE THEORIZED THAT SOME STRAINS OF THE GAS, CONTAINING COPIOUS AMOUNTS OF NITROUS OXIDE, HAVE BEEN THE CAUSE OF STUDENT APATHY IN RECENT YEARS.



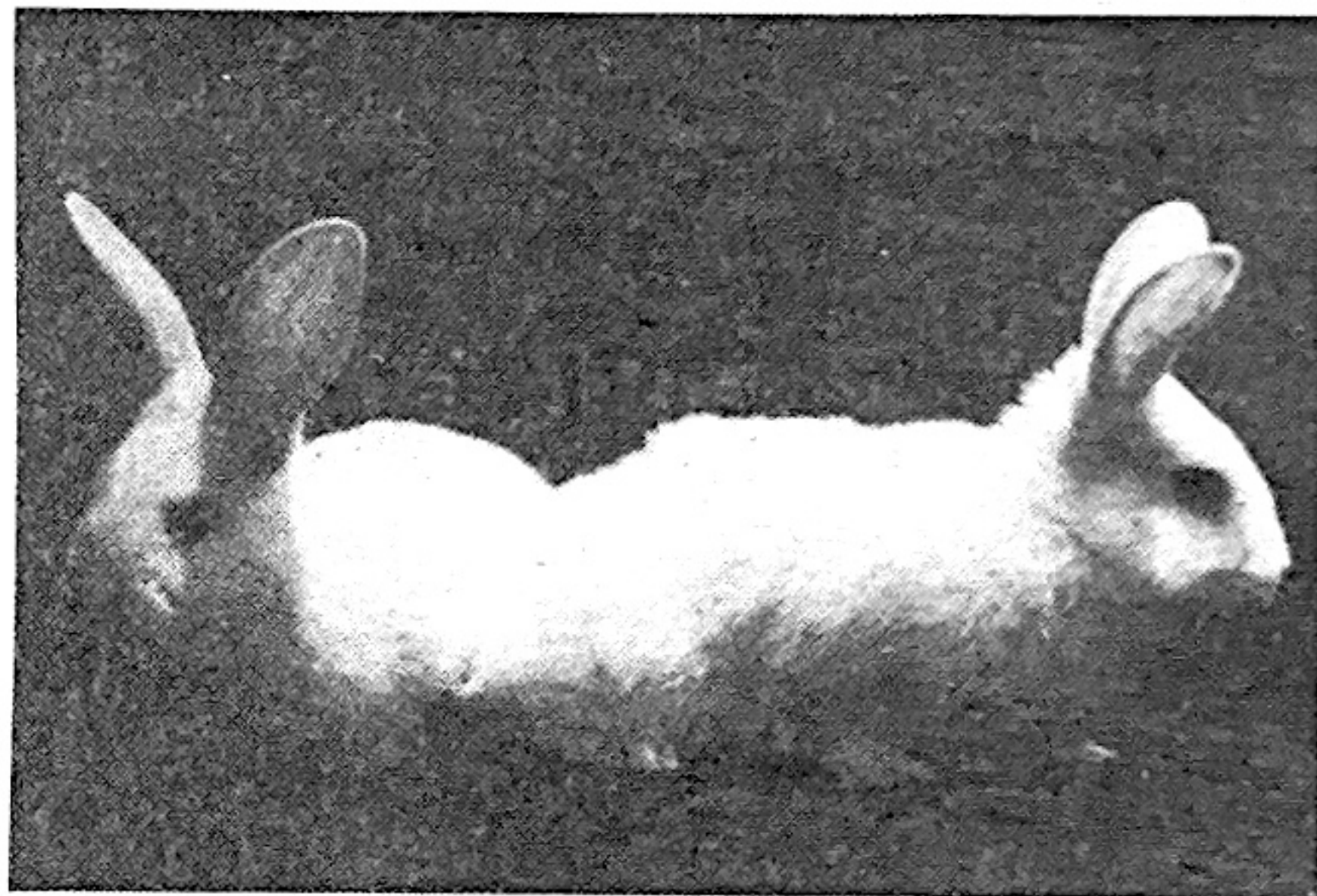
THE GOOD DOCTOR IS PRESENTLY CONDUCTING A SERIES OF RESEARCH EXPERIMENTS IN AN EFFORT TO ISOLATE AND EXAMINE THE GAS



IN FACT, A NEW STRAIN OF THE GERM, Bio-Ubal-Ri-Phonicus HAS BEEN DISCOVERED. OUR SHAKERITE NEWSCAM WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO PHOTOGRAPH THE SYNTHESIS OF THE NEW BREED



DR. VON MESHENHEIMER WONDERS, "WHAT NEXT?"



RESULTS OF EXPERIMENTS WITH MASSIVE DOSES OF THE GAS ON SMALL ANIMALS HAVE PROVED TO BE STARTLING.

THE SHAKERITE NEWSCAM WILL KEEP YOU POSTED ON ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.
 BEING REPORTED: RICH LASH, JON BANG, DAVE COHEN

BEGIN ↓
The day dawned bright and clear. By the time the full sun was visible above the treetops, they had already started to arrive - a small trickle at first, then an ever-increasing torrent, bringing with it

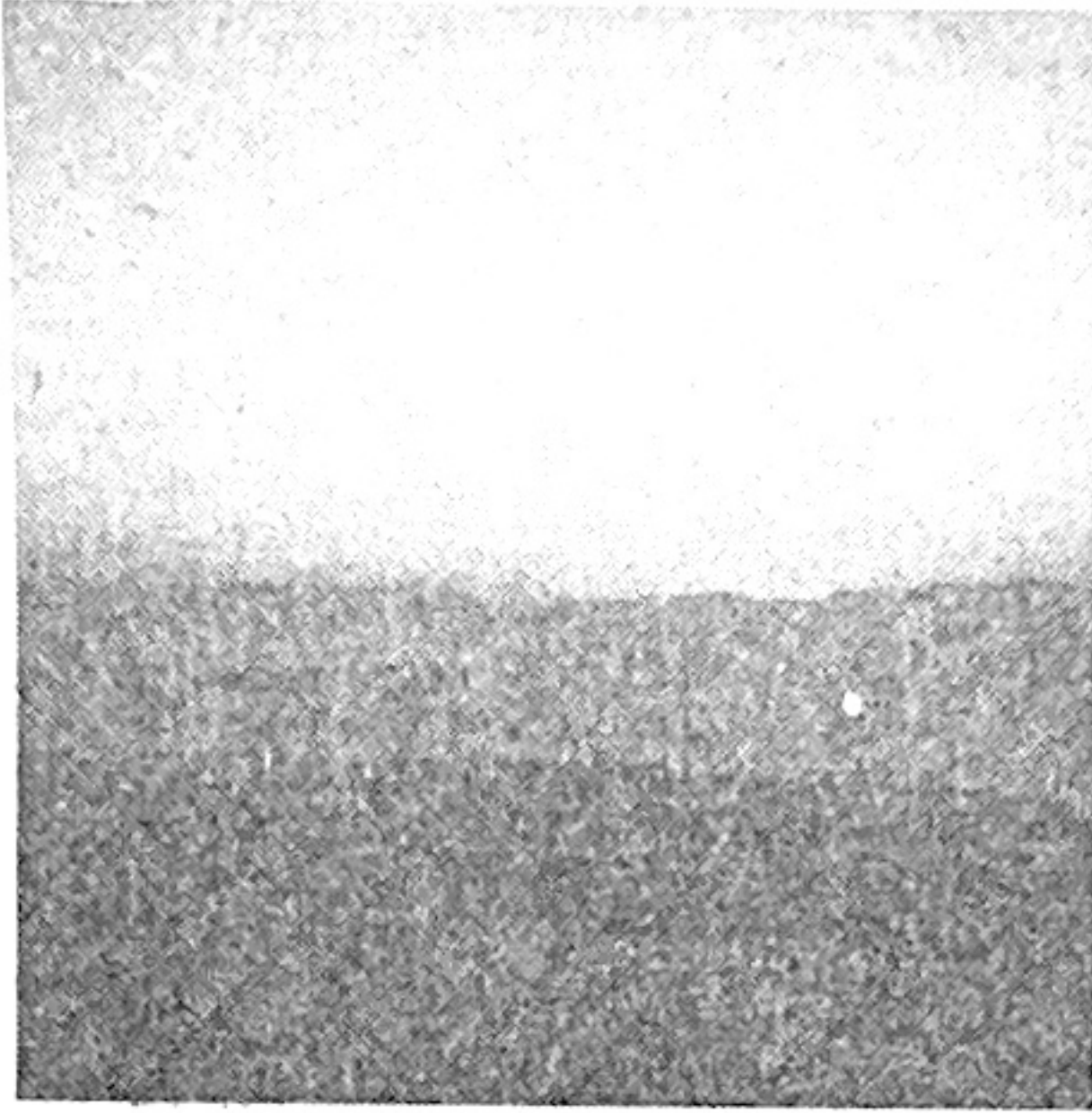
The ...

a flood of carbon monoxide. To an outsider, it may have seemed normal. Each driver perceived something unique. None were able to comprehend the phenomenon at hand. Confusion reigned

everywhere. All had screamed to a standstill. Police arrived. Even they were engulfed in the sea of steel and glass. If the exterior of the structure was as a flood, the interior was nothing more than a desert - dry, barren, arid. The

And ...

eyes of a tensed world were focused on the oval. Never before had the existence of all mankind been threatened to so great a degree.



DAY ...

institution was due to open soon, but all knew it would not. There were those who sought other branches of escape, but the stream of metal and hot rubber had overflowed everywhere. Finally,

assistance to expedite a solution. They were wrong, dead wrong. The situation worsened. The minutes stretched. Hours became days.

the decision came. Everything was cancelled. The river of life had been immobilized. The experts recommended no outside situation itself within 24 hours. They alternate recommended the

Dawned

Advantages of the Alt. School

Ever since that catastrophic winter of 1977, the Shaker Heights school system had operated smoothly. The primary and secondary schools prided themselves over the markable achievements of their students. Without exception, Shaker Heights schools were ranked first in the nation for their academic prowess. However, there had been a great deal of student unrest at the high school. For over 60 years, controversy had arisen concerning the A.S. or the "Alternative School." The majority of students doubted that the new school was a beneficial institution. Many questioned its validity as a productive tool in preparing young adults for the outside world. What is more, since most students had never seen the A.S., they wondered if it really existed. And I am not too sure that later they would have wished they knew and had always known.

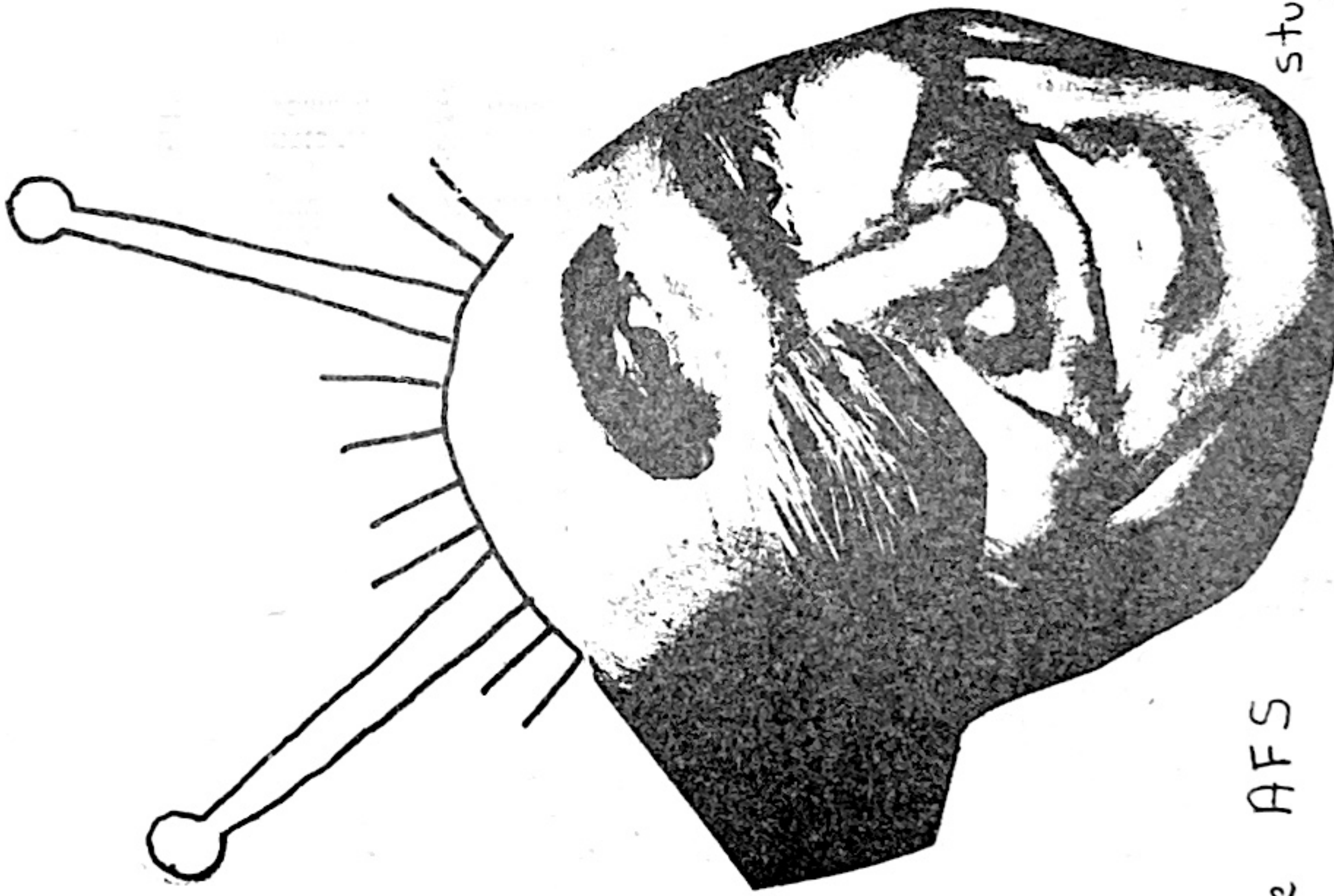
Anyhow, the incidents which I am about to describe, I believe, will demonstrate the real advantages of the A.S., especially its clandestine location.

It was winter, the sky was overcast with ominous clouds (as all winter days in Cleveland were and always will be); the American flag, still in front of the school, snapped violently as the frigid n ortherlies swept over the yard. I think it was Wednesday - no matter - the seventh of December, 2041. That, too, was an omen, but a not-omen nevertheless. At 9:15 a.m., a luminescent crest broke through

the cloud cover. For an instant there was silence - an effluvium protracted and indomitable. As the wind ceased, a ray of light pierced the clouds, struck the building's east face with impact and

recalcitrance. A taint hum loomed high above the silence as the sun slipped back into its winter seclusion.

Inside the building, students in regular school were sitting restlessly in their second-period



student from Mars.

The AFS

shaker
welcomes
latest
AFS'er

R: Hey you! Leprechaun! Yes, you with the bright green face! This isn't Saint Patrick's Day. Why are you dressed like that?
A: I beg your pardon. I'm Ares Mavors, the Martian exchange student to Shaker.
R: Oh, I'm sorry, I'm the Shakerite reporter who is supposed to interview you.
A: But...I thought I just introduced myself to you.
R: What? Why that's the school computer you were talking to.
A: Uh-hhh. I bet the first question you're going to ask is "What do I like most about Earth?"
R: How do you know?
A: I'm telepathic.
R: Really, I'm Bob. What DO you like most about Earth?
A: Big Macs
R: Why?
A: Because they have green pickles.
R: You like green? I noticed that you have a lovely green suntan. What lotion do you use?
A: Copper (oxide) tone.
R: Are you enjoying your classes at Shaker?
A: No, already I was thrown out of art class for insulting the teacher.
R: What did you say?
A: I told him that his oil paintings were terrible.
R: But they're pretty to look at.
A: Look at, yes, but I ate four of them. My math teacher is angry with me for cheating.
R: Oh?
A: Yeah, he asked me to count to 17, and so I did.
R: But how is that cheating?
A: I used my fingers. In gym class I've been more lucky. I bench-pressed 375 kilograms.
R: Wow! How did you do that?
A: Simple. I used my four-arms.
R: What do you dislike about Earth?
A: I'm getting very poor reception.
R: From the students?
A: No, from my antennae; your Earth smog gums up my sensors. I also have very little regard for your judicial system.

their much beloved American allies. Had no one remained alive? Of course! the Russians were still alive. Wait! and not so soon to condemn our fellow Shakerites to the inferno. At 9:57 there was a recapitulation of topics, and then an instantaneous thump of closing notebooks. Each student stared forward eagerly awaiting the bell. The absence of the bell at 10:00 had no apparent effect on the students as they nevertheless exited their classrooms enroute to their midmorning break. As they approached the steps to ascend from their underground chamber, the diurnal excitement of their unknowing voices could be heard as they discussed their never-to-be plans and more... "Boy, this A.S. ain't no good." (But they were soon to find out how wrong they were.)

uh; IT, is a fib.
A guest. By the way: he, uh, she, R: My HP-21? Sure, anything for sitting on the desk over there?
A: Yes, could you fix me up for a date with that cute little thing part?
R: Would like to ask me before we answer a few of my questions. R: Of course, well, thank you for complicated Love triangles are especially A: Sure, but more interesting. R: I mean, having THREE sexes?
R: Doesn't that make things a bit difficult? I mean, having THREE I'm a fib.
A: Those are mars' three sexes. blubs?
point, what are glibbs, fibbs, and R: Excuse me, but to clear a effect of naked eyeballs. and fibbs away from the harmful great strife on Mars with their Stuff (PRUDES) have caused Union for the Demolition of Erotic A: The Planetary Reactionary a problem?
R: Yes, but how has that caused can see Mars with the naked eye? that on a clear night, Earthlings with Earth people. Do you know concern has arisen from contact A: Yes, in fact our greatest relationship with Earth these past 90 years resulted in any problems? R: Has Mars' peaceful for our national sport, hopscotch. A: No, they're the line markers Roadways? Airships? for? Political boundaries? R: EEEEEE! Never mind. A: What's a "spacecraft"? spacecraft had windows R: I didn't know that modern Mars. A: When I flew to Shaker from Canyon? R: When did you see the Grand Canyon. It's gorgeous. A: Oh, yes, and big canals too. R: Are there hills on Mars? and we wear them to walk up hills A: What? These are Mars shoes, shoes with a negative heel. notice that you are wearing Earth planets seem to be the same. I R: Some things between the happen on Mars. at bridge. Such a thing would never on trumped-up charges of cheating newspapers that a man was jailed R: Why is that?

Coach Bartell Speaks Out on '79 Season

In this space we are printing an exclusive SHAKERITE interview with Shaker baseball coach Chuck Bartlett as he embarks on his 13th season as coach, here in the Spring of 2079. Despite losing 397 consecutive games during his first 12 years, Bartlett remains undaunted and even optimistic. The reason for optimism is a \$12.57 outlay to the baseball program from the usually parsimonious Athletic Director, aging Jerry Masteller. With this extraordinary financial backing, it appears that Coach Bartlett will finally be able to employ all his innovative and imaginative talents to build a winner reminiscent of those of the glory years of the mid-1970's.

SHAKERITE: How was it, coach, that Mr. Masteller was convinced to open the Athletic Department wallet to get the baseball program back on its feet?

C. BARTLETT: Last year on the date of our doubleheader with Malvern several of the players' parents became strikingly aware of the horrible makeshift conditions under which we play. It was unfortunate that we were soundly trounced in both games, but the parents did start a campaign to force Masteller to allot some money for baseball. I am confident that the influx of money will enable me to develop a top-notch club.

SHAK: We've heard much about your creative talents-what innovations do you plan for this year?

C.B.: For one, I intend to widen the home plate at Shaker to 36" across.

SHAK: Why?

C.B.: I got the idea way back in 1977 when I played high school ball. You see, in one particular game at Berea that year, my brother Bob (who later went on to pitch DDD ball in Taiwan), Pete Levine (now a world-renowned lecturer on the benefits of nymphomania), and Mike Chesler (now a philosophy professor at Yale) teamed to walk 36 consecutive batters. Frankly, I would've instituted my idea when I arrived back in '67 but I never had the money to buy and install a new home plate.

SHAK: This seems rather minor - any other new ideas?

C.B.: As a matter of fact, yes. I was going to keep this one under wraps, but I suppose I'll enlighten your faithful readers. This idea originated with the fact that over the years we've had a lot of trouble with opposing teams stealing my signs. I needed some creative way of giving signs that would be steal-proof. By the way, have you ever heard of Fred Heinen?

SHAK: No, but what's that got to do with it?

C.B.: You'll see, he was a baseball coach back in my playing days, and to this day (as a lively 164-year-old) he runs 5 miles around the Shaker track each day. This year I'm going to employ him to give the signs from the track area - our opponents'll never expect it! Of course this idea will necessitate the acquisition of binoculars for each team member, but Jerry has assured me our \$12.57 budget can easily handle it...

Another problem we've had over the years is a conspicuous lack of speed. I intend to alleviate that problem by using motor scooters on the basepaths. This will, of course, give us a distinct advantage over most of our opposition, since third graders generally haven't gotten past the tricycle stage.

SHAK: Could you give me a rundown and evaluation of your squad's talent?

C.B.: I think you'll find that even in this area my nonpareil imaginative talents are full at work. This year, for instance, I have attained the services of a fellow named Mark Wiehn.

SHAK: What's so unique about that?

C.B.: He's 118 years old.

SHAK: In high school?

C.B.: Let me explain. You see back in 1977 he flunked geometry and was never able to graduate. He has taken geometry in summer school 102 times since, and flunked each time. This year I wisely convinced him to take the course during the school year so that he can help my ballclub.

SHAK: Doesn't he have a job that would interfere with his ballplaying?

C.B.: He was getting too old for that anyway.

SHAK: Huh?

C.B.: He used to donate (the product of a bodily function) on a regular basis to a Parma scientist who was trying to crossbreed humans and mules artificially.

SHAK: Oh.

C.B.: The other stars of my squad this year include Sidney Bergerstein, David Rosenbaum, Josh Greenwald, Jacob Hersch, and Erogenous Jones. Jones should prove particularly effective at exciting and stimulating my team. I am hoping he'll end the offensive impotence that has characterized my clubs in the past.

SHAK: Finally, where do you foresee your club finishing this year?

C.B.: Barring rainout, at Sussex on May 30.

SHAK: Thank you very much, coach.

C.B.: It's been your pleasure.

THREE-MINUTE MILE!

This article is reprinted with the permission of World Publications. It first appeared in the March 1977 Issue of Runner's World. It is a letter sent in to the "Runner's Forum" by Kevin O'Halloran.

During the Olympic competition of ... (2080), to be conducted at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the attention of the sporting world will again be on the fabled metric mile (jokingly referred to as the "1500-meter dash"). The existing record is 3:06 set in ... (2076) at the Taipei Games, and, if past history is any indication of the athletes' progress, then we might well expect to see another barrier smashed.

Back in 1954, Roger Bannister ran the first sub-four-minute mile, and then in 1975, John Walker of New Zealand broke 3:50. On each of these momentous occasions, the question was posed, "Where will it stop?" Is there no limit to the sheer physical energy required to push the clock, to take off seconds, where the threshold of pain has to take a back seat to the more fundamental issue of human survival?

The standing cliché is that all records are made to be broken.

Let's see how this continues to be the case in the metric mile.

Many of the following modern training techniques have contributed to each new record:

The emphasis is on larger, more muscular runners, picked by their national health services from the cradle, with the selection based on characteristics such as body structure, lung capacity and oxygen consumption. (Current record holder is Froedrich Doppelganger, United Germany, 6' 6", 220 pounds.)

Discard all foot gear and organic apparel in favor of spray-grip and weightless supporters, applied and worn after shaving down for the big event.

Rubberized, sheltered track surfaces which provide zero wind resistance should be used.

Oxygen loading should be used to saturate the blood before the race. (This non-drug type of stimulation became popular around the year 2000, when it became illegal to train in high-altitude chambers.

Sprint train, with no real distance work, just sub-45-second quarters (as many as 40 or 50 in a daily workout) in government-subsidized sports centers. The new

concept in improving milers led to the creation of the downhill spiral track, designed to lengthen the stride.

Limit most competitors to only one race during their career. In accordance with the "World Exception Rule," you may compete again only by breaking the existing record.

Thus, we can see that it is no fluke or anything less of an evolutionary certainty that man is approaching the three-minute meter mile. Rather, it is a product of (21st) Century planning and technology.

Some people might gasp, "What next?" When this barrier falls. Others will smile knowingly and point to other miracle marks which were thought untouchable and yet were eventually surpassed. There was the eight-flat 100-meter dash, the 35-second 400, the 1:20 800 and, of course, the recently established 1:49 marathon. It is now rumored that Finland is grooming a sub-100-minute marathoner.

As they said in early Greece, as the first great marathoner collapsed at the gates of Athens, "This record won't stand the test of time."

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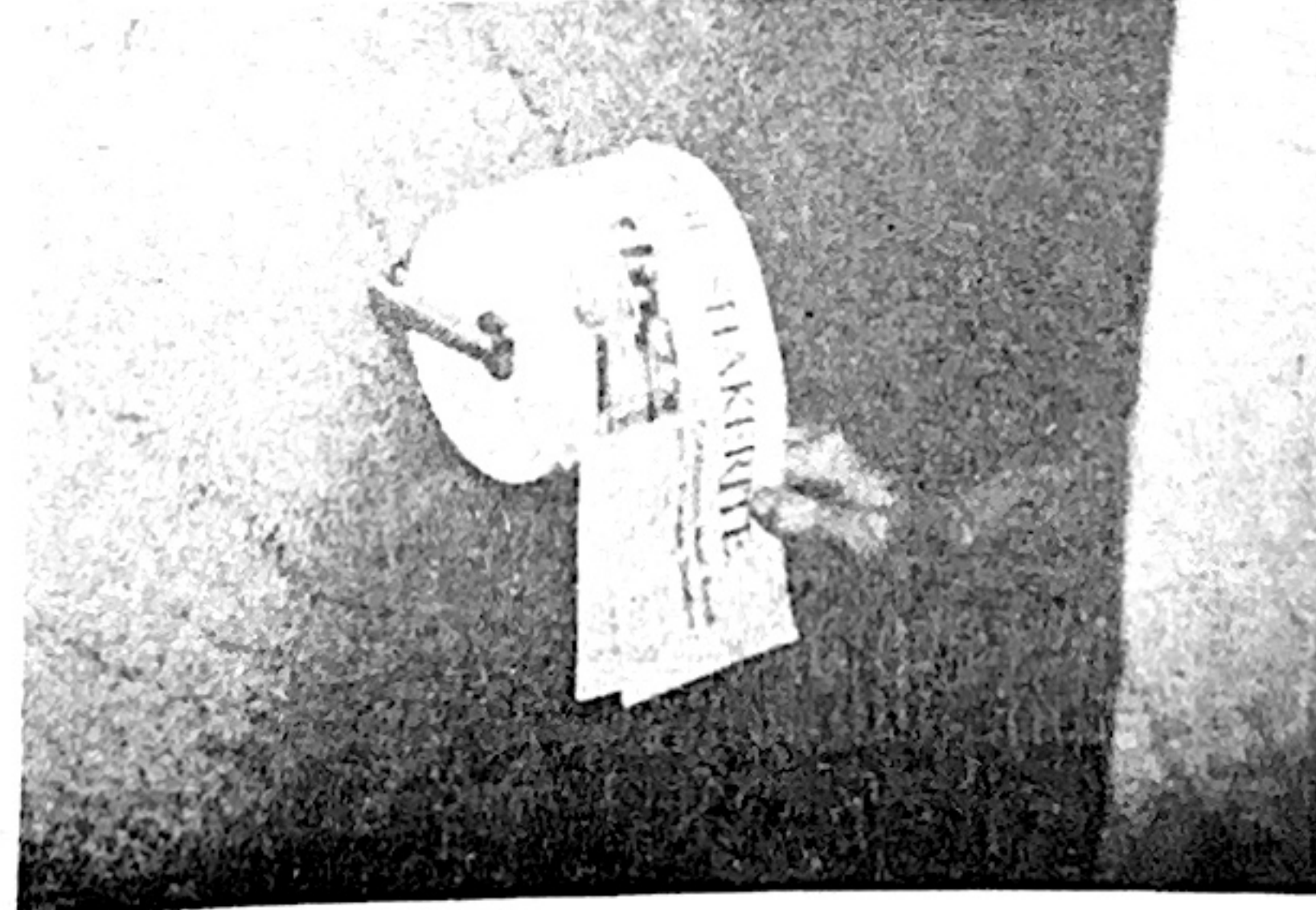
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SHAKER SPORTS CENTERS

...Shaker's new super-sport structure will be complete by the end of next year. The 800-million-dollar complex will be both an indoor and an outdoor facility. The indoor section will include a natatorium seating 10,000 people and equipment with 50-meter swimming pool and a diving well. It will replace "the bathtub" that has been in use since the early 20th century. There will also be a new gymnasium for basketball which seats 15,000 spectators. In addition to these two items, there will be a four-lane, 200-meter, Tartan indoor track.

The outdoor facilities will be as lavish as the indoor equipment. The Red Raider Stadium will seat 50,000 people and will be used for football and baseball. It will be equipped with lights and an Astro-Turf playing field. The track and tennis facilities will be joined to the stadium. There will be eighteen clay courts accompanied by the latest rubberized, eight-laned, 400-meter track.

I asked Athletic Director Jerry Masteller, "What's next?" He replied, "An indoor, 18-hole golf course is in the planning stage..."

...With the coming of this new sports complex, one pauses to reflect upon the past and the memories that the Rupp Field and Shaker's other sports facilities inspire. In baseball there were the days of Blazin' Bobby Bartlett. In swimming there was Bill Fullmer. In basketball there was Kevin Clayton. In wrestling there was ... there was? And, in track there were the Abraham twins. Where have those days of glory gone...

CHAMPAGNE FLOWS AT SHHS AS MATZO BALLS ENTER THE N.B.A.

The Matzo Balls of Shaker Hts. Intramural Basketball fame have finally received entry into the illustrious National Basketball Association. In addition to the Matzo Balls, the NBA is also considering awarding a franchise to the one-time Shaker Intramural champion Scarlet Knights, or to ailing Walls. It is believed, however, that Jerusalem doesn't have a prayer for getting into the league. The addition of two new teams will bring the NBA total to 64, which will result in 16 geographically imbalanced divisions of four teams each. The Matzo Balls will presumably enter the North Eastern South Western Central Division of the Rocky Mountains Great Lakes Conference, or the South Eastern North Western Division of the Mississippi Valley Gulf Coast Conference. If they are placed in the NESWCD of the RMGLC they will join the Bogalusa Bombers, the Concord Grapes, and the awesome Philadelphia 76ers led by the incredible "Neurosurgeon J." If, however, they join the SENWD of the MVGCC they will be competing with the perennial champion Barborton Magics, the Macon Whoopies, and the Los Angeles

Lakers paced by towering Kunte Kinte Jabbar. Matzo Ball General Manager Brian (Nip) Ritzenberg announced that coaching possibilities include Shaker coach Freddy Heinlen, Richfield Cavalier's assistant coach Jimmy Rodgers, and world president Idi Amin. Ritzenberg added that Mark Schwartz, the highly successful coach of the Flushing (N.Y.) Toilets, is also a possible candidate. Ritzenberg's hopes for acquiring Schwartz were dimmed, however, when Schwartz was indefinitely suspended for hurling a sofa and two reclining chairs at veteran referee Earl Souter after Souter called Schwartz "carrot top". Schwartz' outburst surpassed the notorious tantrum of Cleveland Cavalier coach Bill Fitch over a century ago when he tossed a chair at a referee in a fit of anger.

+++
In other league occurrences, NBA Commissioner John Haskell voided the attempted trade of three-time NBA MVP Ken "Ducky" McCall by Oakland owner Charlie O. Finley to the New York Knicks. In exchange for McCall, Finley was to receive 6.02

x 10²³ dollars, the Empire State Building, the male lead in "Guys and Dolls" on Broadway, the Democratic Nomination for President, and an eighth-round draft choice. Haskell was quoted as saying, "Throwing in the draft choice made this trade too one-sided for Finley."

+++
The Detroit Pistons, formerly an NBA franchise now playing together for the Alcatraz entry in the San Quentin Prison World Invitational Tournament, trounced All The President's Men in their first round game, 118-47. Piston Marvin Barnes, wearing number A-1178 on the back of his striped uniform, was high in the game, apparently due to excessive smoking prior to it.

+++
One more note-In a poll of the ten most illiterate people in the world, Jim McCord was unanimously selected as Sportswriter of the year for his unequalled ability of writing unintelligible gibberish. McCord dropped his supporters a thank-you note reading, "JGHOWXZKD MACISFOOL".

Rollerballers Go To Rome For Finals

One sport which has really caught on with fan appeal the last few years here at Shaker has been Rollerball. With as many as 25,000 students gathered at Thornton Arena to cheer on the Red Raiders, they have really responded with some very successful seasons as of late. With victories over the likes of Newbury High, from Texas, Paris High School, from France, and even Sidney High, from Australia, Shaker finished off the regular season with a tremendous 56-0 won, loss record! As the Red Raiders prepared for their shuttle trip to Rome for the championship series against Berlin High, of Germany, we posed these questions to coach Zeke Bartow:

Q: Coach, how do you compare this year's rollerball team to the team of 2068, which won the Western Hemisphere championship?

A: To tell you the truth, both teams are pretty close. While our front men may not be quite as good as in '68, our bikers are unquestionably superior. So, all in all, I figure we probably have put together a stronger team this year.

Q: Rumors have it that you've been coaching the Shaker rollerball squad since the ice age. Is this true?

A: No. 2007, the year the ice age ended, was the year I was born. I didn't start coaching the team until 2028, at the age of 21. So, I guess

this is my 51st year.

Q: Getting back to this season, what do you think are your team's chances of winning the championship in Rome?

A: From the Projecto-films I've seen, Berlin High appears tough, but we should be able to knock them off in 5 or 6 games.

Q: Though you were 56-0 this season, you must have had some hard-fought games. Who, in your opinion, was your toughest opponent?

A: It's pretty close, but I'll have to say Tel-Aviv. Though they weren't as strong as we, they were quicker and had good stamina. We were lucky to beat them 6-3.

Q: How are the players in respect to team unity?

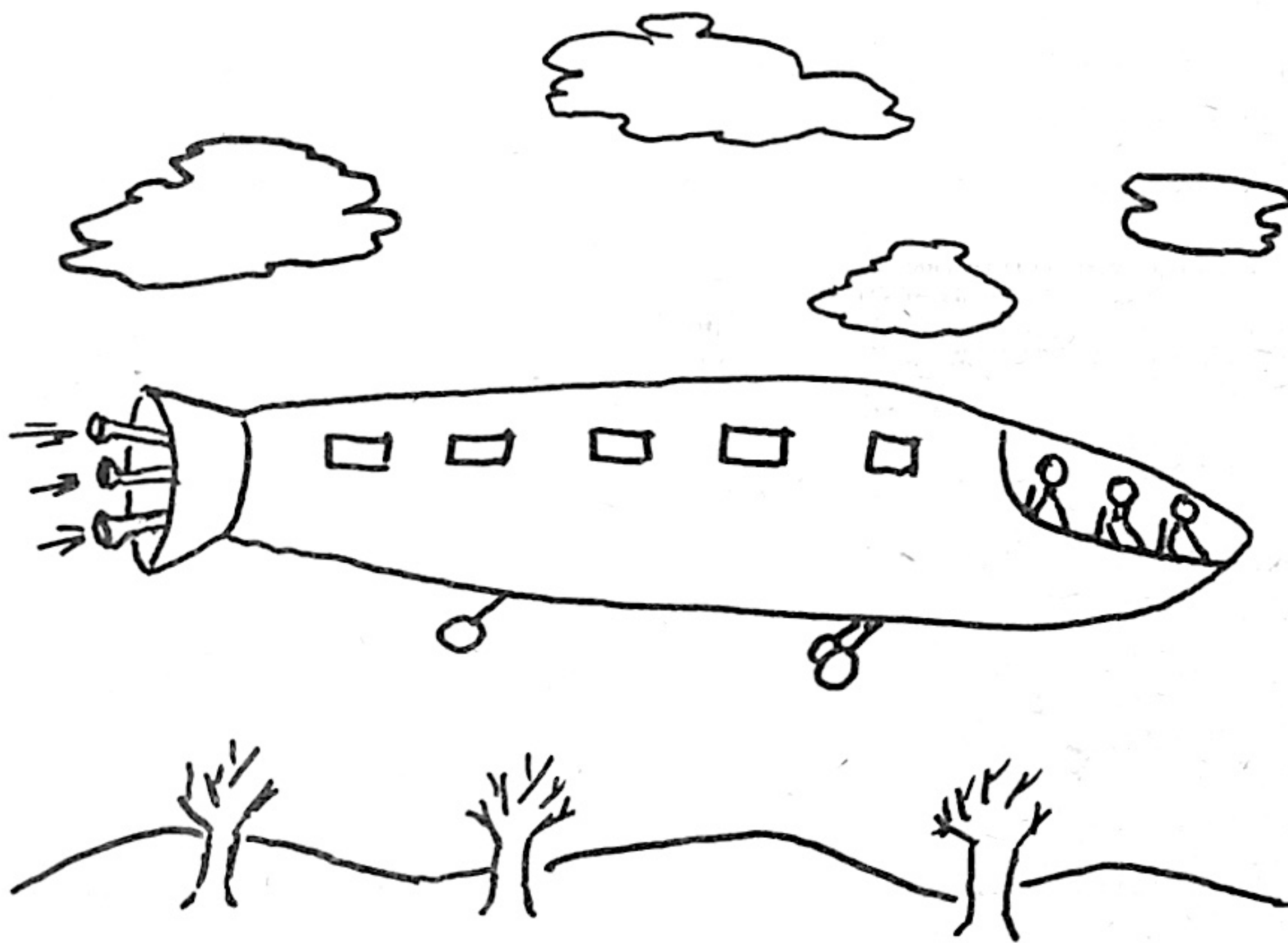
A: Our tremendous team unity is the key to our success. The unselfish team captain, Mick Straffon, really helps to promote this, too.

Q: Does that Mick Straffon come from the long chain of Straffons that have produced tremendous hockey and rollerball players through the years?

A: Yes he is, and as far as I'm concerned, they can keep that tradition going.

Q: Well, coach, thanks for your time, and good luck in the championship series in Rome.

A: Thanks a lot. It's been my pleasure.



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